

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

## District Two

January 2012 Edition

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### Marshalee Drive Improvements Have Arrived!

After much hard work and collaboration with my office and our County agencies, I'm pleased to announce a construction project to improve safety and traffic operations at the intersection of Marshalee Dr. at Avalon in Elkridge. Work should begin the week of Nov 14 and will include a traffic signal, pedestrian crosswalks, push buttons and pedestrian signals. Weather permitting, this project should be completed by late Jan 2012.

## Welcome!

The year is coming to an end and I hope that everyone has been enjoying the holiday season! While the temperature continues to drop, stay warm and enjoy my latest edition of my newsletter highlighting informational programs, services and area events happening throughout our District Two community and Howard County.

Know of any great community events? Please share them with my office so that I may review them for inclusion in this newsletter!

For your convenience, I have included at the end of this edition opportunities on how you can get involved in our community through volunteering or participation on County Boards.

Please feel free to share this Bulletin with friends, neighbors, and community organizations. If you don't already receive this bulletin directly and would like to subscribe, email me at [cbball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cbball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

## Happy Holidays!

In observance of the holiday season, the County government announces the following closings:

Government Offices	Closed – Monday, December 26 thru Monday, January 2
Senior Centers	Closed – Monday, December 26 thru Monday, January 2
County Parks	Closed – December 25 & 26, January 1 & 2
	Open – Tuesday, December 27 thru Saturday, December 31
Trash/Recycling Collection	No pick-up Monday, December 26 or Monday, January 2
	Slide schedule is in effect both weeks
Landfill	Closed – Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2
	Open – Tuesday, December 27 thru Saturday, December 31
Courts	Closed – December 23, 26, 30 & January 2
Animal Shelter	Closed – December 24, 25, 26, 31 & January 1, 2
	Open – Tuesday, December 27 thru December 30
Howard Transit	Will not operate December 25 and January 1

Indoor recreation facilities will also be closed beginning at 5pm on Saturday, December 24 through Monday, January 2. They include, Meadowbrook Athletic Center, North Laurel Community Center, Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood, Roger Carter Recreation Center, the Kiwanis-Wallas Hall and the Robinson Nature Center.

As always, the 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, call 410-313-2200. For a complete list of openings and closings, including a link to the trash and recycling "slide schedule", visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayclosings.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayclosings.htm) or for questions on the "slide schedule", call 410-313-6444

## So You Want to be a Board of Education Candidate?

Do you want to make an impact on our school system and are you interested in running as a candidate for the Board of Education? The filing deadline is **January 11, 2012** and the application can be accessed online at [222.elections.state.md.us/elections/2012/2012\\_pres\\_election\\_calendar.pdf](http://222.elections.state.md.us/elections/2012/2012_pres_election_calendar.pdf). There is a \$25 filing fee and you must be a registered voter and resident of Howard County. The term of office is 4 years. For more details, contact **Guy Mickley** at **410-313-5836**.

## The Howard County Food Bank Needs Your Help!

### SHA Lighting Upgrades

Residents will soon see lighting improvements along I-95 at the interchanges with Rt175 and Rt100. SHA has experienced major lighting infrastructure problems at each of the Howard County interchanges along I-95 that go beyond routine maintenance operations and need to be upgraded. SHA has recently awarded a contract for this work with a scheduled Notice to Proceed date for the contractor of January 2012.

In these uncertain economic times, many people are struggling as the costs of housing, food and transportation continue to rise. A growing number of Howard County residents are finding themselves in need of assistance this holiday season and many Howard County agencies, including the Department of Fire and Rescue Services, are doing their part to help alleviate some of the burden for those citizens in need.

Beginning **December 9 2011 through January 13, 2012**, each fire station will serve as a drop off site for non-perishable donations for the Howard County Food Bank. Citizens are highly encouraged to stop by their local fire station and give what they can. The Food Bank is currently very low in inventory and in need of nutritious foods such as canned vegetables, fruits, pasta, cereals, canned meats and fish, juices, dried beans/lentils, canned spaghetti sauce, condiments and personal care items. For more info and a detailed list of the donations needed for the Food Bank, visit <http://cac-hc.org> or call **410-313-6440**. For a complete list of fire stations, visit [www.hcdfsr.org](http://www.hcdfsr.org).

## 2011 National Speak Up Survey!

Speak Up is a national online research project giving individuals the opportunity to share their viewpoints about key educational issues. The Howard County Public School System is now participating and is encouraging parents, teachers and students to take the survey. The information gathered will provide schools with valuable data related to the use of technology and education in the classroom. The deadline to complete the survey is **Friday, December 23, 2011**. To participate, visit [www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2011](http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2011). The password is: **hcppss**.

## Symphony of Lights Drive Through!

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Symphony of Lights has finally arrived and will run from **Monday, November 21, 2011 through January 1, 2012**. Cars, vans and busses can take a 20-30 minute drive-through of a display of more than 70 larger-than-life, light creations illuminated by a fantasy of color, design and animation. This holiday tradition is delightful for all ages!

It will be open 7 days a week from **6-10pm** including holidays except **CLOSED December 31** for the Midnight at 7 event. For more details, visit [www.hcgh.org/drivethrough](http://www.hcgh.org/drivethrough) to learn more!

## FREE Holiday Metered Parking for Historic Ellicott City!

Beginning **Friday, November 25, 2011 through January 2, 2012**, metered parking in the Historic Ellicott City district will be **FREE**. The free parking is an attempt will help those who visit Ellicott City on two of the biggest shopping weekends of the season, Thanksgiving and the annual Midnight Madness Celebration and continuing through the holidays. Signs notifying customers will be placed at the entrance of all four parking areas. Parking on Main Street, which is not metered, is still limited to two hours.



## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Howard County Holiday Train Display!

Come out and experience the joy of the train displays engineered by our Howard County Firefighters. This year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the event. Admission is **FREE** but donations are accepted. The Display is hosted at the Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Department Station #2, 4150 Montgomery Rd and will be open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 6:30-8:30pm; Saturday and Sunday 11am-8:30pm. The Fire Department is also collecting new, unwrapped toys for children in need through December 23 which can be dropped off at the Train Garden or any Howard County Fire Station.

To schedule a group tour, call **410-313-2036**.

## "Merry Mulch" Your Holiday Tree!

Howard County Government wants to remind residents there is a variety of FREE Christmas tree recycling options available through the Merry Mulch program. Since 1993, this program has kept thousands of trees out of the landfill, helping to save money and the environment. All collected trees are delivered to a compost facility and will be recycled into compost and mulch.

Beginning January 3 and continuing through Friday, January 20, Christmas trees may be recycled seven days a week, 7:30am-5pm at the drop-off sites listed below. One exception to the above days and times is the Alpha Ridge Landfill, which is open Monday through Saturday 8am-4pm. Look for the Merry Mulch signs at the following drop-off sites:



MULCH ME!!

Clarksville	Kendall Hardware, 12260 Route 108 River Hill Garden Center, 12165 Route 108
Columbia	Cedar Lane Park, 5081 Cedar Lane Grandfather's Garden Center, 5320 Phelps Luck Drive
Elkridge	Rockburn Park, 5400 Landing Road
Ellicott City	Small Circuit Court parking lot on upper Court House Dr (just past Ellicott Mills Dr)
Highland	Schooley Mill Park, 12975 Hall Shop Road
Marriottsville	Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste Area, 2350 Marriottsville Road
Savage	Savage Park, 8400 Fair Street
Woodbine	Western Regional Park, 14800 Carrs Mill Road

Residents with curbside yard trim collections can set their Christmas trees out on their regular curbside recycling days through January 20. Trees will not be accepted on trash collection days. Please remove all decorations, including tinsel, garland, ornaments, lights, tree stands and plastic bags. Trees must be cut into less than four foot lengths and tied; they do not need to be bagged. Each bundle must weigh less than 40lbs. Set your tree out the night before your collection day as they may be picked up as early as 6am or as late as 7pm. After January 20, residents may still bring their trees to the Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste Area. Artificial trees and wreaths can be recycled year-round in the scrap metal area at the Alpha Ridge Landfill Residents' Convenience Area.

## NotifyMeHoward Emergency Notification System Launches!

*NotifyMeHoward* is a FREE service that allows Howard County Government to deliver a wide variety of Howard County specific information directly to subscribers' inboxes or mobile devices. It will also send timely emergency notifications from the National Weather Service and Howard County public safety providers like the Office of Emergency Management, the Police Department and the Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Additionally, subscribers can build their own menu of "alerts" for topics including Recreation and Parks' special events, library classes and events, Public Works project updates and other news related items distributed by the Office of Public Information.

Enroll today by visiting [www.NotifyMeHoward.org](http://www.NotifyMeHoward.org) and click on "New User" to get started.

## VITA Tax Preparation Comes to Howard County!

Howard County's first Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site will provide **FREE** tax preparation to eligible taxpayers throughout the 2012 tax season. In addition to the free tax assistance preparation, the site will also offer FREE electronic filing. To be eligible, taxpayers must have earned up to \$49,000 in 2011. The site will operate out of the North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd in Laurel, three days a week from January 18 through April 14; Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4-8pm and Saturdays 9am-3pm.

Volunteers are needed!! In order to provide a quality VITA site, volunteers are actively being recruited to serve as tax preparers, quality reviewers, greeters and office staff. Volunteer tax preparers are trained to help with special credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled. Training and certification for volunteer tax preparers are offered for free and sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service. No prior tax preparation or accounting experience is required.

For more details, please contact the VITA Site Coordinator Enock Guerrier at 410-313-0386 or email [vita@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:vita@howardcountymd.gov).

### Thank you for your patience!

A project to replace a failing water main along Meadowridge Rd from US1 to 1,000ft north of Old Stockbridge Dr in Elkridge has begun. Construction will take place **weekdays 8am-4pm** and should be completed by early **March 2012**, weather permitting. For questions or concerns on **Capital Project W-8249**, call **Lisa Brightwell** at 410-313-3440.

## Free Home Repairs For Qualifying Individuals!

Rebuilding Together Howard County is now accepting applications for its **FREE** Home Repairs Program. This program provides assistance to low-income homeowners, the elderly, disabled or those who simply do not have the funds necessary to maintain their home. To qualify, you must own and reside in your Howard County home. A brief, two page application must be completed to be considered and the application deadline is **Saturday, December 31, 2011**.

Applications available online at [www.rebuildingtogetherHC.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherHC.org) or call 410-381-3338 to have an application mailed to you.

### Elementary Curricular Advisory Committee Needs You!

The ECAC seeks parents of elementary students to serve on the committee. The ECAC provides input to elementary curriculum office and fosters positive communication and partnerships among families, the community and the HCPSS regarding elementary programs and initiatives.

ECAC 2011-2012 Meeting dates are Tuesdays 4:30-6pm (December 13, 2011, January 10, 2012, March 13, 2012, May 1, 2012). Contact Nancy Dickson at 410-313-1538 to learn more.

## CAC's Weatherization Program Changes Eligibility Requirements to Include Moderate Income Families!

The Community Action Council administers the Weatherization program for the State of Maryland. Recently, the State has changed the eligibility criteria for the program to include moderate income families. As such, the program is no longer only targeting low income families. Based upon the new guidelines, many friends and family members might be eligible for this wonderful **FREE** service.

Is your home energy efficient? Determine if you are eligible for **FREE** weatherization services.

Maximum family income for eligibility is as follows:

Family Size	Gross Monthly Income
1	\$4,079
2	\$4,663
3	\$5,242
4	\$5,821
5	\$6,292

Applications are available online at [http://cac-hc.org/cac\\_howtoapplyweatherization.htm](http://cac-hc.org/cac_howtoapplyweatherization.htm). For more info, call 410-313-1181.

## Career Academies Information Sessions!

Parents and students in grades 8-10 are cordially invited to learn how the Career Academies enable high school students to focus on a course of study related to their academic career interests. This event will be held on **Wednesday, January 4, 2012 from 7-9pm** in the **Applications and Research Lab (ARL), 10920 Route 108** in Ellicott City. All are welcome and this event is **FREE**. For more information or a list of Academies, visit [http://www2.hcpss.org/cte/academies/career\\_academies.html](http://www2.hcpss.org/cte/academies/career_academies.html) or call 410-313-6629.

## Human Service Grant Application Process Meeting Scheduled!

Are you a non-profit organization interested in applying for a community Service Partnership (CSP) grant for FY2013? The Howard County Department of Citizen Services will hold a pre-submission meeting for representatives from non-profits on **Thursday, January 5, 2012**. It will be held **8:30-10am** in the **Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Room 6**.

CSP grants provide 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) non-profit organizations with funding to support the delivery of essential human services in the Howard County community and, more specifically, services which meet basic needs of individuals and families to provide them with opportunities to become self-sufficient. CSP funds may be used for agency operating expenses, program costs and well as direct client assistance. To be eligible, an agency must: be a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) non-profit, serve the residents of Howard County and confirm with federal, state and local housing and human rights laws in providing services.

Grant applications must be submitted no later than 5pm on **Tuesday, January 31, 2012**. For more information or to download a grant application, visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/CitizenServices](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CitizenServices) or call the CSP Grants Manager **Keri Peterson** at 410-313-5996.

## Recycle Your Holiday Lights!

Recycle your old, broken holiday lights at My Organic Moms (MOMs) through January 31 and receive a 25% off coupon to [www.HolidayLEDs.com](http://www.HolidayLEDs.com) or send them to the Christmas Light Source for recycling. Mail them to: Christmas Light Source Recycling Program, 1923 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76110. For more details, visit [www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program c 210.html](http://www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program_c_210.html).



## Transportation Advocates Meeting!

The Transportation Advocates invites you and your ideas, wishes and questions/comments to be a part of creating the Vision of Connectivity for transportation in Howard County and the central Maryland region. The Meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 12, 2012** beginning at **7:30am** at the **Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keaton Way, Columbia, MD 21044**.

The advocates will work together to create a summary of our vision for transportation in central Maryland and Howard County for the next two, five and 20 years. This is a unique opportunity to work together, put the wants/needs/desires/wishes together into a true vision of what kind of transportation inter/intra connective networks we'd like to have and need including streets, roads, public transit, bicycles, complete pedestrian access and more. This is also a great opportunity to receive an update on the downtown shuttle, Howard Transit's Green Route electric/inductive charging project and the upcoming expansion of the travel planning project TRIP from John Powell of Central Maryland Regional Transportation (CMRT).

For more details, contact Sharonlee Vogel at [SharonLeeVogel@gmail.com](mailto:SharonLeeVogel@gmail.com).

## HC Library Board of Trustees Invites Applications for Two Board Positions!

The Howard County Library Board of Trustees invites community residents to apply for two HCLS Board vacancies: one representing County Council District 5 (Western Howard County), the other an At-Large position. Overseeing an educational institution that ranks among the finest in the country, the HCLS Board establishes policies, approves budgets, and ensures that HCLS fulfills its mission of delivering high-quality public education for all ages through a curriculum that comprises three pillars: Self-Directed Education, Research Assistance & Instruction, and Instructive & Enlightening Experiences.

Trustees, who serve in a voluntary capacity, are appointed to five-year terms and may be reappointed for a consecutive term. Application deadline is **Friday, January 13, 2012** and are available online at [www.hclibrary.org](http://www.hclibrary.org). For more info, call Stephanie Shane at 410-313-7772 or email [Stephanie.Shane@hclibrary.org](mailto:Stephanie.Shane@hclibrary.org).

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebrations!

The Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission will present its 27<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of the life and legacy of civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King on **Sunday, January 15, 2012** beginning at 2pm at Howard Community College, Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center – Smith Theater. Please consider bringing a canned food item to support the Howard County Food Bank. This year's speaker is Mr. Jeff Johnson, an award winning journalist, social activist, political commentator and author.

For more details or if you need special accommodations, please call 410-313-6439.

## MLK, Jr.'s "A Day of Service"

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Service Committee is collecting emergency kit supplies for Howard County families as part of their service day project. The kits will help the community be better prepared when faced with an emergency. The kits will be distributed by the Community Action Council of Howard County on Monday, January 16, 2012 10am-1pm at the Columbia Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia. Donations will be accepted through **Wednesday, January 11, 2012**.

For more information or to volunteer, please call or email Lakisha Williams, MLK Service Chair at 410-313-5783 or [LWilliams@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:LWilliams@howardcountymd.gov).

## Help Save a Life... Donate Blood!

The American Red Cross is looking for blood donors who have warm hearts to help save lives. Winter is one of the more challenging times to schedule enough donors to meet hospital needs but the need for trauma cases, surgical patients and people with cancer doesn't stop just because it's winter time. Thunder Hill Elementary School is doing their part to help meet the demands of the County by organizing a blood drive on **Thursday, January 19, 2012** from **3-8pm** in the Cafeteria of THES. For more info, contact LaTonya Hendricks at [LaTonyak73@yahoo.com](mailto:LaTonyak73@yahoo.com) or call 301-252-0381.



## Howard County Preschool and Child Care Information Fair!

This annual fair provides parents, guardians, grandparents and child care personnel with a “one stop shop” for information on child care and pre-school programs, as well as the opportunity to talk face-to-face with teachers and program directors. Representatives from community service organizations that provide programs and services to Howard County’s young children will be on hand to furnish information to parents. This event will be held on **Saturday, January 21, 2012** in the **Ten Oaks Ballroom, 5000 Signal Bell Lane in Clarksville**. No time has yet been announced.

For more information, call the Office of Children’s Services at **410-313-1940** or email **Debbie Yare** at [DYare@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:DYare@howardcountymd.gov).

## Special Needs Camp Fair!

The Howard County Autism Society (HCAS) and the HCPSS Office of Special Education invite parents to explore programs offered at many local summer camps for students with special needs. It will be held on **Tuesday, January 24, 2012 6:30-8:30pm** at the Cedar Lane School, 11630 Scaggsville Road in Fulton. For more information, call the HCAS Resource Center at **410-290-3466** or email [info@howard-autism.org](mailto:info@howard-autism.org).

## Celebrate Columbia’s 45<sup>th</sup> Birthday... Purchase a Public Brick!

In honor of Columbia’s upcoming 45<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Columbia Association (CA) will once again offer a public sale of Downtown Columbia Lakefront brick pavers. CA offers the Buy-A-Brick program every five years in honor of a milestone Columbia birthday. The bricks will be installed during the spring of 2012 on the walkways in the front of the downtown lakefront restaurants. Following installation, all bricks will be entered into an online database ([www.ColumbiaAssociation.org/Bricks](http://www.ColumbiaAssociation.org/Bricks)) which makes it easier for people to locate their brick’s exact location.

Bricks are \$65 for two lines and \$75 for three lines. Each line has a maximum of 15 characters (spacing is considered a character). Orders will be taken through **February 24, 2012**. For more information, visit [www.ColumbiaAssociation.org/Buy-a-Brick](http://www.ColumbiaAssociation.org/Buy-a-Brick) or contact Erin McPhail at [Erin.McPhail@ColumbiaAssociation.org](mailto:Erin.McPhail@ColumbiaAssociation.org) or **410-423-1891**.

## Friends of Education Award Nominations Needed!

Friends of Education Award Nominations are being sought! This award recognizes individuals, businesses or organizations making innovative or unique contributions that directly support the school system’s mission of excellence in teaching and learning. Any member of the Howard County community or any group, organization or business location in or serving Howard County may be nominated for the award.

The nomination deadline is **Friday, January 27, 2012** and can be found online at [www.hcpss.org/board/foe.shtml](http://www.hcpss.org/board/foe.shtml). For more details, call **410-313-1584**.

## Leadership U Class of 2012 Now Recruiting!

Leadership U is now recruiting for the Class of 2012. The program is open to all high school sophomores who either live or attend school in Howard County – public, private or home schooled. Participants are selected based on a written application and personal interview. Application materials are available in all high school guidance offices or can be found online at [www.leadershiphc.org](http://www.leadershiphc.org), click on “Programs”.

Information sessions are being held from 7-8pm at the following locations: **Wednesday, January 25, 2012** at the Central Library; **Tuesday, January 31, 2012** at the Miller Library; **Thursday, February 9, 2012**. For more details, call **410-730-4474** or email [LHCinfo@leadershiphc.org](mailto:LHCinfo@leadershiphc.org).



## Thinking About Running for the Oakland Mills Village Board?

Do you want to become more involved in the Oakland Mills community? Elections are held annually for each board seat and the Columbia Council seat. Consider running for an OM elected office. An informational session will be held on **Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 7pm** at **The Other Barn**. For more details, call **410-730-4610**.

## Equal Business Opportunity Initiative!

Howard County Government is committed in fostering a strong socio-economic environment by promoting diversity and inclusiveness in its purchasing activities. To this effect, the County's Equal Business Opportunity Program is designed to enhance opportunities and increase participation of minority, woman and disabled business enterprises. For more information on how your business can benefit from this program, contact **Mahesh Sabnani**, Equal Business Opportunity Coordinator, Office of Purchasing at **410-313-3694**. Mr. Sabnani will be pleased to provide your business with guidance, assistance and direction.

## Vacancies on Howard County's Boards and Commissions

Howard County Government is actively seeking volunteers to serve on the following Boards and Commissions: Commission on Disability Issues, Animal Matters Hearing Board, Board of Social Services, Commission on Aging, and the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board. Below you will find details including deadlines to apply.

- **Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board.** Board members serve five year terms and help review services and the need for services relating to alcohol or drug abuse education, treatment and prevention in Howard County. Candidates must be 18yrs or older, have an interest in drug and alcohol treatment and prevention services and be able to attend the Board's meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:15-6:30pm. For details, call **410-313-6225**.
- **Animal Matters Hearing Board.** Board members serve five year terms and are responsible for hearing and rendering decisions on appeals of citations issued for violations of animal control laws; making recommendations on standards and procedures for operation of the animal control facility; and annually reviewing the proposed budget for the operation of the animal control facility. Candidates must be Howard County residents, 18yrs or older, have an interest in animal control and be able to attend the Board's meeting held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City. For details, call **410-313-2780**.
- **Board of Social Services.** Board members serve three year terms and provide advice on the application and formulation of state policies, procedures and programs that apply to Howard County and to evaluate the local director of the Department of Social Services.. Candidates must be Howard County residents, 18yrs or older, have an interest in social services, and be able to attend the Board's meetings held the third Monday of each month at 4pm in the Department of Social Services Conference Room, 7121 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia. For details, call **410-872-8767**.
- **Commission on Aging.** Commission members serve five year terms and represent diverse professional backgrounds, various age and ethnic groups and different geographic areas throughout the county. The Commission works with the Office on Aging to plan activities, researches county and state legislation that would impact the health and wellbeing of older adults and their families and provides testimony when appropriate. Candidates must be Howard County residents, 18yrs or older, have an interest in promoting successful aging for older adults in Howard County and be able to attend the Commission's meetings held the last Monday of each month at 7pm at the Ellicott City Senior Center, 9401 Frederick Road. For details, call **410-313-6410**.
- **Commission on Disability Issues.** Commission members serve five year terms. It is comprised of 15 voting members who include people with disabilities, service providers, family members of people with disabilities and the community-at-large. The Commission advises Howard County Government on issues affecting people with disabilities and also provides guidance and recommendations on Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. It also advises on the needs, unmet needs and gaps in such areas as housing, transportation, recreation, employment, education, community services, treatment, rehabilitation and related matters, which may preclude the full integration of persons who have full disabilities into the community. For details, call **410-313-6402**.

Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve to: Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

## Route 1 Day Center Needs Supplies!

The Day Resource Center relies on donations and volunteers to make meaningful contributions to the lives of those they serve. Please consider by helping by donating the following items that are in short supply: Batteries, men's underwear, men's jeans, thermal socks, bottled water – 20oz size, Gatorade, peanut butter and jelly, tuna, canned chicken, chef Boyardee-15oz can, spaghetti-15oz can, chunky soups, dinty moore beef stew, baked beans with meat, underwood deviled ham, libby's canned corned beef, Vienna sausages, spam, beef jerky and canned fruit.

There are also volunteer opportunities at the Center and outside the Center. Please check their website for current lists of supply and volunteer needs at [www.daycenter.org](http://www.daycenter.org).

## Going Green... Master Gardner Programs Available!

Master Garden Programs will now be featured at The Other Barn. They are FREE, informative and fun!

- **Wednesday, February 15, 7pm** – Composting

For a complete description, visit [www.oaklandmills.org](http://www.oaklandmills.org).

## Long Reach Village Elections!

Three Village Board positions will be filled at the annual Long Reach election on Saturday, April, 2012. Nominations will begin **March 1-21, 2012**. Candidates must be owners or lease-holding tenants of properties in Long Reach and file a Nomination Petition no later than **March 21, 2012 at noon**. Petitions on election information can be picked up at Stonehouse beginning **March 1, 2012**.

\*\* Election Committee members are needed. Call Stonehouse for more information at **410-730-8113**.

## Charter Review Commission Releases Final Report!

As required by Council Resolution 10-2011, the Charter Commission is required to submit a final report to the County Council outlining a comprehensive review of each section of the Charter and supporting documents to ensure that the Charter remains current to meet the demands and needs of the Howard County community, even during rapidly changing times.

For details on the Commission, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/displayprimary.aspx?ID=6442458922> or contact Meredith Beach at [MBeach@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:MBeach@howardcountymd.gov) or call **410-313-2001**.

## Recreation & Parks Announce Deer Management Program for 2011-2012!

Howard County's Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its fall/winter schedule of managed deer hunts. These hunts are held in an effort to help maintain a stable, balanced white-tailed deer population in our parks where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity. The hunting schedule is as follows but can also be accessed online at

[www.howardcountymd.gov/deermanagement.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/deermanagement.htm)

Alpha Ridge Park	
Bow & Shotgun	January 12; February 6
Blandair Park	
Bow Hunting	February 14; February 23
David Force Park	
Bow & Shotgun	January 19; February 8
High Ridge Park	
Shotgun Hunting	January 30
Middle Patuxent Environmental Area	
Bow & Shotgun	January 17; February 7; February 15; February 27
Schooley Mill Park	
Shotgun Hunting	January 10; January 26

## "Your Local Career Connection"!

Howard County's Office of Workforce Development is here for you! The center is geared towards meeting the workforce and employment needs of businesses and job seekers in the 21st century labor market. They provide companies and individuals ranging from professional, technical and managerial to entry level. It offers residents a variety of tools to aid in a job search. The full service center is equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones, internet access and copiers – all to assist you with your employment search. Customized recruitment events are held for businesses and space is available to use for interviewing.

For more details, visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=1863> or call **410-290-2620**. The calendar of events is online at <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/howard/howcal.shtml>.

## Save the Date... Evening in the Stacks!

Join us at Evening in the Stacks, the Howard County Library's annual gala fundraiser. The event will be held on Wednesday, **February 25, 2011 from 7-11pm** at the **Howard County Library Miller Branch**. The event features a silent auction, fine food and drink and a literary spotlight. Tickets are \$100 each and may be purchased at the door.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fabulous Moms: Women's Small Business Expo and Conference!

Sell and promote your product and service, network with amazing mompreneurs and learn from the most talented, experienced and forward professionals in business. This event will be held from **March 16-18, 2012** at the Arundel Mills Mall and the Hilton BWI in Maryland. For more details, visit <http://fabulousmomsexpo.com>.

## Save the Date... 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Money Matters Fair!

Kick-off Financial Education month with a fun-filled line-up of activities and classes to learn smart ways to stretch your money! This fair will be held on **Saturday, March 31, 2012** from **10am-1pm** at the Each Columbia Branch Library, 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia. The fair includes hands-on activities, information and resources for personal finance, financial aid for college, free credit reports and tax advice. For more details, call **410-313-3105**.

## Children's Discovery Fair!

Stop by for a celebration for young children ages 3-5 years old and their families for free hands-on activities relating to school readiness including interactive games, songs, crafts and stories. This event is scheduled for **Saturday, April 14, 2012** from **10am-1pm** at the **East Columbia Branch Library, 6600 Cradlerock Way** in Columbia. For more information, call the Office of Children's Services at **410-313-1940** or email **Debbie Yare** at [DYare@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:DYare@howardcountymd.gov).

## "Come Home to Howard County" Housing Fair!



This premier event showcases everything individuals and families who currently live in or outside the County need to know about buying or renting a home in Howard County. The Fair, to be held on **Saturday, April 14, 2012** from **10am-2pm**, will offer attendees the chance to talk one-on-one with mortgage lenders, homebuilders and remodelers, housing specialists, real estate experts and County personnel. There will also be educational workshops, hands-on seminars and give-a-ways.

The event is located at **Long Reach High School, 6101 Old Dobbin Road** in Columbia. For more details, call **410-313-6320**.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual GreenFest!

Back for its 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, this FREE event will be held on **Saturday, April 14, 2012** from **10am-4pm** at **Howard Community College, Burrill Galleria, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway** in Columbia. There will be something for all ages and will feature exhibits, demonstrations, activities and practical tips for easy ways to "green" your home, workplace and lifestyle. For more info, visit [www.hcgreenfest.org](http://www.hcgreenfest.org) or call **Lindsay DeMarzo** at **410-313-4373**.



Vendor applications are now being accepted and are available online at [www.hcgreenfest.org](http://www.hcgreenfest.org).

## Columbia Home Tour Seeks Distinct Homes to Showcase!

The Columbia Home Tour is now seeking distinct Columbia homes to showcase at the third annual event to be held on **Sunday, June 3, 2012** from **11am-5pm**. Homeowners will be asked to open their doors to allow participants to embark upon a self-guided tour. Homes of any size or style with diverse architecture or unique characteristics are sought. Nominations including self-nominations are welcome!

For more information, contact **Carol Hobelmann** at **410-730-3987** or email [wlevents@columbiavillages.org](mailto:wlevents@columbiavillages.org).

## FREE Career Advancement and Computer Training for Adults!

Find a job or move up in your current position! This opportunity is **FREE** for low- to moderate-income residents of Howard County. Registration is Mondays 10am-2pm or by appointment and is located at Pinnacle Career Resources, Chartwell Professional Park, 8180 Lark Brown Road, Suite 301 in Elkridge. For more details, call Cindy at 410-799-1097.

## Share Your Opinion on the 2012-2013 HCPSS Calendar!

The HPSS Calendar Committee is currently developing a calendar proposal for the 2012-2013 school year. Your input is very important in the process, especially when changes are under consideration. Take a brief moment to share your thoughts by answering a few questions on the survey. Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PR2B2ST>.

## FREE Home Energy Audit Program!

Howard County's new **FREE** Home Energy Audit Program will provide free comprehensive audits to 1,500 households, an estimated savings of approximately of \$250-\$500 to households. The audit is the first step in identifying how much energy a home consumes and evaluate what measures can make the home more energy efficient while saving money on their energy bills and is funded through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) Program.

Applications are available online at <http://livegreenhoward.com/energy-climate/home-energy-audit/> and selections will be made via lottery weekly over the course of the next six months. If selected, you will have 48 hours from notification to participate must agree to provide a 12-month history of their energy usage, be present at the time of the audit and complete a survey six months after the audit to record the efficiency measures implemented.

For questions, email [energyaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:energyaudit@howardcountymd.gov).

## Calling All Youth... Voices for Change Youth Coalition Seeks Your Help!

Are you interested in making positive change in your community by working on issues important to you? Would you like to get to know other students from high schools around the county? Would you like to be a part of the team of students and adults that organize the annual Youth Summit? Then Voices for Change Youth Coalition is for you!

General Student Membership is limited to Howard County high school students (public, private and/or home school) and Howard County 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (public, private and/or home school). Students must be in good standing with their respective school to be eligible. Active membership is defined as participating in at least 60% of the total meetings throughout the year. Meetings are twice a month on alternating Tuesdays from 5-7pm and dinner is provided. Meetings are held at HC Recreation & Parks located at 7120 Oakland Mills Road in Columbia. For more details, check out the website at [www.HCYouth.org](http://www.HCYouth.org) or contact Meg Mekelburg at [MMekelburg7@verizon.net](mailto:MMekelburg7@verizon.net).

## BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information?

The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at <http://www.selfvetting.com/events/BBI/APL/> and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at 410-313-6376 or email [rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov).

## Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ride launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at **410-884-RIDE (7433)** or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information.

## Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, 5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are 9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Other times may be considered. For more information, call **410-992-1923 x 14**.

## You Asked For It... We Responded. Bulk Trash Pick-Up Returns!

Bulk Trash Item pick-up has resumed but items must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444** or visiting [www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org](http://www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org). These items typically do not fit in trash cans and could include mattresses, chairs, sofas, dressers, tables, etc. Bulk METAL Item pick-up began starting **October 1, 2011** and must be scheduled in advance by calling **410-313-6444**. Items must be placed at the curb by 6am (no earlier than 6pm the night before). Please do not block mailboxes or fire hydrants. **NOTE:** It is illegal for anyone except Howard County's contractors to pickup scrap metal at the curb (Howard County Code 18.610)

## Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

Howard County Library [www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22](http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22)

FINALLY! Something to Do in Howard County [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379)

Youth Howard County [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts)

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.



## Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at **410-313-2200**.

## "Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org) or call **1-800-745-RIDE (7433)**.

## Looking for a Job? Use Maryland's Workforce Exchange!

Job seekers in Maryland can now search more than 80,000 presently open and active jobs across Maryland, indicating that while Maryland comes through this national recession, our State's employers ARE hiring! For more info or to apply, visit <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov/>

## Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

**TAX CREDITS:** The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling 410-313-4076. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit:

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

## Mentors & Tutors Wanted!

A-OK (Assisting Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring Program needs adult volunteers to work in Howard County schools, grades K-8, and after-school programs. A-OK works with several schools including Oakland Mills MS, Phelps Luck, Stevens Forest and Talbott Springs ES. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan 410-730-6030 or email [aokmentor@gmail.com](mailto:aokmentor@gmail.com)

## Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784 or email [ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email [GangTips@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:GangTips@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email [CToler@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CToler@howardcountymd.gov)
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email [KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov)
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/aboutpolice.htm>
- Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=6442451452>
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email [animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov) or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Are speeders in your neighborhood? Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at [www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd\\_smartprogram.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm)
- Looking for personal safety tips? Visit [www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd\\_personalsafety.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_personalsafety.htm)
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

In addition, the Columbia Association (CA) and the Howard County Police Department (HCPD) have joined forces to enhance the safety of our residents in Columbia and Howard County at large. Every month, safety tips and valuable information will be added to their newly formed website [www.howardcountysafety.org](http://www.howardcountysafety.org). I encourage residents to continuously check this site for helpful hints to protect yourself and property and potentially reduce crime through your efforts!

## Health Care Options For You or Your Family!

The “Door to HealthCare” provides for the consolidation of applications and application processes for the numerous health programs available for those who are under/uninsured. Individuals sit down with a counselor or work alone at a kiosk to enter personal data (including: family make0up, income, etc.) which will determine the programs for which you and/or family members are eligible. The information will quickly be transferred electronically into the proper application and the process is complete. Services provided include: MCHP, MA, PAC and the Healthy Howard Health Plan.

“The Door to HealthCare” is located to the rear of **7178 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia, MD**. For further information, call **410-988-3737**.

## Medicare Patients – Looking for a Local Doctor!

The Medicare.gov site is the place to find information about Medicare. The webpage provides detailed information about the basics of Medicare, resources, preventative health care and much more. If you’re looking for a local doctor who accepts Medicare, visit [www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor](http://www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor). Fill in your zipcode and any preferences you might have and instantly you will be given a list of providers in your area! For more details, call **1-800-MEDICARE**.

## How and When to Use the Emergency Room!

Remember in Howard County, there are a number of affordable alternatives to the Emergency Room if you are ill (coughs, colds, ear infections, minor burns, strains/sprains), but **not** experiencing a medical emergency. These “minute clinics” are a great resource to receive medical attention on a weekend, late night, or simply when your regular physician cannot see you. Many have extended and weekend hours and do not require appointments. Most accept insurance but please call the provider/clinic for details.

For additional information or a list of providers, contact our Health Department online at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Departments.aspx?ID=290> or call **410-313-6300**.

## Recycling... Do’s And Don’ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/ResidentialRecycling.htm> or call **410-313-6444**. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call **410-313-7678** or visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/departments.aspx?ID=815>.

## Domestic Violence Center to Expand its Sexual Assault Services

The Domestic Violence Center (DVC) is pleased to announce a collaborative effort with the Howard County Police Department and the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to expand DVS’s sexual assault services with the hire of a Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Clinician who will be based at the CAC. For more details, call **410-997-0304** or visit [www.dvcenter.org](http://www.dvcenter.org).

## At-Large Members Needed for Community Advisory Council!

The Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education is currently seeking at-large members for the coming school year. The council sponsors educational programming for members and provides the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, educational policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee meets at **7:30pm** the third Tuesday of each month at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. At-large members serve a two-year term to begin in August 2011. For more information, please call **410-313-6682** or email [tjmallo@verizon.net](mailto:tjmallo@verizon.net).

## Alzheimer’s Early-Stage Programs Now Available!

The Alzheimer’s Early-Stage Social Club meets Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Pre-screening is required. To reserve your space and/or for pre-screening, call **Judy Miller** at **410-313-5441**. For more information on the Alzheimer’s association, call **1-800-272-3900** or visit [www.alz.org/maryland](http://www.alz.org/maryland).



## In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org). The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

## Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To Schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: **1-800-506-5806**.

### RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open 8am-4pm Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call **410-313-6444**.

## Boards and Commissions Vacancies!

Howard County is well known for our active and informed residents which I proudly represent. Howard County Boards and Commissions bring meaning to "government of the people, by the people and for the people." They provide a vital link between our citizens and the officials who serve them.

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to submit a current resume along with a cover letter highlighting interests or experience which would be beneficial to the Board or Commission to which application is being made. Letters should be addressed to: **County Executive, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043**.

As vacancies occur on the various boards or commissions, interviews are scheduled with interested parties. For current vacancies and special requirements, please call **Eileen Weber**, County Executive Office at **410-313-2013**.

## Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/DisplayPrimary.aspx?ID=4294969242>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email [hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov) or call **410-313-2005**.

## View the Council's Current Legislation and Calendar and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link [http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative\\_Pending.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm). Council meetings open to the public and I encourage you to join us. A list of upcoming meetings can be found online at <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Departments.aspx?ID=4294967600>.

### I Want to Hear From You!

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Council  
District 2  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
[cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov)  
[http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC\\_DistrictTwo.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm)

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click on the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings  
[http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC\\_Legislative\\_CouncilCalendar.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm)

*"There is nothing to make you like other human beings so much as doing things for them."*

**Zora Neale Hurston**